United Nations A/C.2/63/L.61

General Assembly

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Sixty-third session
Second Committee
Agenda item 49 (f)
Sustainable development: Convention on Biological Diversity

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Andrei Metelitsa (Belarus), on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.17

Convention on Biological Diversity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/201 of 20 December 2000, 61/204 of 20 December 2006 and 62/194 of 19 December 2007 and other previous resolutions relating to the Convention on Biological Diversity,

Recalling also its resolution 61/203 of 20 December 2006 on the International Year of Biodiversity, 2010,

Reiterating that the Convention on Biological Diversity[1] is the key international instrument for the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources,

Noting that one hundred and ninety States and one regional economic integration organization have ratified the Convention and that one hundred and forty-seven States and one regional economic integration organization have ratified the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity,[2]

Recalling the commitments of the World Summit on Sustainable Development to pursue a more efficient and coherent implementation of the three objectives of the Convention and the achievement by 2010 of a significant reduction in the current rate of loss of biological diversity, which will require action at all levels, including the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and the provision of new and additional financial and technical resources to developing countries,

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.
[2] Ibid., vol. 2226, No. 30619.

08-62327 (E) 031208

Deeply concerned by the continued loss of biological diversity and the associated decline in the ecosystem services of our planet and their far-reaching environmental, social, economic and cultural impacts and acknowledging that an unprecedented effort is needed to achieve by 2010 a significant reduction in the rate of loss of biological diversity,

Noting the need for enhanced cooperation among the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[3] and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[4] (the "Rio Conventions"), while respecting their individual mandates, concerned by the negative impacts that loss of biodiversity, desertification, land degradation and climate change have on each other, and recognizing the potential benefits of complementarities in addressing these problems in a mutually supportive manner with a view to achieving the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity,

Acknowledging the contribution that the ongoing work of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore, of the World Intellectual Property Organization, can make in enhancing the effective implementation of the provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity,

Noting the contribution that South-South cooperation can make in the area of biological diversity,

Expressing deep appreciation to the Government of Germany for hosting the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and its fourth meeting serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and welcoming the offer of the Government of Japan to hold the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and its fifth meeting serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, in 2010,

Taking note of the reports of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment,[5]

Noting the efforts of the Life Web initiative promoted by the Government of Germany and other countries,

Noting also the holding in Putrajaya, Malaysia, from 10 to 12 November 2008, of an ad hoc intergovernmental and multi-stakeholder meeting on an intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services, convened by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Noting further the initiative launched at the meeting of the environmental ministers of the Group of Eight in Potsdam, Germany, in March 2007, to develop a study on the economic cost of the global loss of biodiversity,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity on the work of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;[6]

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[3] Ibid., vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[4] Ibid., vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[5] Available from http://millenniumassessment.org.

[6] A/63/294, annex III.

2. *Encourages* developed countries parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity[1] to contribute to the relevant trust funds of the Convention, in particular so as to enhance the full participation of the developing countries parties in all of its activities;

3. *Urges* all Member States to fulfil their commitments to significantly reduce the rate of loss of biodiversity by 2010, and emphasizes that this will require an appropriate focus on the loss of biodiversity in their relevant policies and programmes and the continued provision of new and additional financial and technical resources to developing countries, including through the Global Environment Facility;

4. *Takes note* of the outcomes of the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention[7] and its fourth meeting serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;[8]

5. *Urges* the parties to the Convention to facilitate transfer of technology for the effective implementation of the Convention in accordance with its provisions and in this regard takes note of the strategy for the practical implementation of the programme of work on technology transfer and scientific and technological cooperation developed by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Technology Transfer and Scientific and Technological Cooperation,[9] as a preliminary basis for concrete activities by parties and international organizations;

6. *Notes* the ongoing work of the Heads of Agencies Task Force on the 2010 Biodiversity Target, of the chairpersons of the scientific advisory bodies of the biodiversity-related conventions and of the Joint Liaison Group of the secretariats and offices of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[4] the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[5] and the Convention on Biological Diversity, aimed at enhancing scientific and technical collaboration for achieving the 2010 biodiversity target;

7. *Notes also* the adoption by the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention of a strategy for resource mobilization[10] in support of the achievement of the three objectives of the Convention and, in accordance with Conference of the Parties decision IX/11 and the annexes thereto,[11] invites parties to submit, to the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, views on concrete activities and initiatives, including measurable targets and indicators to achieve the strategic goals contained in the strategy, and on indicators to monitor its implementation;

8. *Takes note* of decision IX/12 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, on access and benefit-sharing, and the annexes thereto,[11] which established a road map for the negotiations contained in that decision and, inter alia:

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[7] UNEP/CBD/COP/9/29.

[8] UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/4/18.

[9] UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-TTSTC/1/5, annex III.

[10] UNEP/CBD/COP/9/29, annex I, decision IX/11 B, annex.

[11] See UNEP/CBD/COP/9/29, annex I.

(a) Reiterated its instruction to the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing to complete the elaboration and negotiation of the international access and benefit-sharing regime at the earliest possible time before the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, in accordance with decisions VII/19 D and VIII/4 A;

(b) Instructed the Working Group to finalize the international regime and to submit for consideration and adoption by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its tenth meeting an instrument or instruments to effectively implement the provisions of articles 15 and 8 (j) of the Convention and its three objectives, without in any way prejudging or precluding any outcome regarding the nature of such instrument or instruments;

9. *Takes note also* of decision IX/20 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, on marine and coastal biodiversity, and the annexes thereto,[11] by which the Conference, inter alia, adopted a set of scientific criteria for identifying ecologically or biologically significant marine areas in need of protection, contained in annex I to the decision, and scientific guidance for designing representative networks of marine protected areas, contained in annex II;

10. *Takes note further* of decision IX/5 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, on forest biodiversity;[11]

11. *Encourages* the efforts being made to implement the seven thematic programmes of work, as established by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, as well as the ongoing work on cross-cutting issues;

12. *Reaffirms* the commitment, subject to national legislation, to respect, preserve and maintain the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, promote their wider application with the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, innovations and practices and encourage the equitable sharing of the benefits arising from their utilization;

13. *Takes note* of decision IX/33 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, and the annex thereto, and invites parties to the Convention, other Member States, relevant international organizations and other relevant stakeholders to make preparations to celebrate in 2010 the International Year of Biodiversity, and in that regard:

(a) Invites all Member States to create national committees, with participation of representatives of indigenous and local communities, to celebrate the International Year of Biodiversity and invites all international organizations to mark the event;

(b) Invites the Secretary-General to consider appointing before 2010, within existing resources, an honorary ambassador for the International Year of Biodiversity, who would have a mandate to call for practical actions and solutions towards meeting the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity;

(c) Decides, as a contribution to the International Year of Biodiversity, to convene at its sixty-fifth session, in 2010, a one-day high-level meeting of the General Assembly, with participation of heads of State, Governments and

delegations, taking into consideration the schedule of meetings of the Convention on Biological Diversity;

(d) Encourages United Nations departments, funds, programmes, specialized agencies and regional commissions to fully support and participate, as appropriate, in the activities being envisaged for the observance of 2010 as the International Year of Biodiversity, under the auspices of the secretariat of the Convention;

14. *Stresses* the importance of private-sector engagement for the implementation of the objectives of the Convention and the achievement of the 2010 target, and invites businesses to align their policies and practices more explicitly with the objectives of the Convention, including, inter alia, through partnerships;

15. *Notes* the adoption by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention of decision IX/25, on South-South cooperation for development, and the ongoing efforts of the Executive Secretary in that regard;

16. *Notes also* the development of the gender plan of action under the Convention on Biological Diversity and invites parties to support the implementation of the plan by the Convention secretariat;

17. *Takes note* of decision IX/16 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, and on biodiversity and climate change, and the annexes thereto,[11] which, inter alia, establishes an Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biodiversity and Climate Change with a mandate to develop scientific and technical advice on biodiversity in so far as it relates to climate change;

18. *Also takes note* of the ongoing work of the Joint Liaison Group of the secretariats and offices of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and the Convention on Biological Diversity, and further encourages continuing cooperation in order to promote complementarities among the secretariats, while respecting their independent legal status;

19. *Encourages* all parties to the Convention to contribute to the discussions leading to an updated strategic plan for the Convention to be adopted at the tenth Conference of the Parties, having in mind that this strategic plan should cover all three objectives of the Convention;

20. *Invites* the countries that have not yet done so to ratify or to accede to the Convention;

21. *Invites* countries to consider ratifying or acceding to the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture;[12]

22. *Invites* the parties to the Convention that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to consider doing so, reiterates the commitment of States parties to the Protocol to support its implementation, and stresses that this will require the full support of parties and of relevant international

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[12] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the Conference of FAO, Thirty-first Session, Rome, 2-13 November 2001* (C 2001/REP), appendix D.

organizations, in particular with regard to the provision of assistance to developing countries in capacity-building for biosafety;

23. *Invites* the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity to report, through the Secretary-General, to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session on the work of the Conference of the Parties and to include in the report information on the preparation of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly referred to above;

24. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Convention on Biological Diversity".

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Sixty-third session
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Agenda item 49 (a)
Sustainable development: implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Andrei Metelitsa (Belarus), on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.27

Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/199 of 20 December 2000, 56/226 of 24 December 2001, 57/253 of 20 December 2002 and 57/270 A and B of 20 December 2002 and 23 June 2003, respectively, and its resolutions 61/195 of 20 December 2006 and 62/189 of 19 December 2007, and all other previous resolutions on the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,

Recalling also the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[1] Agenda 21,[2] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[3] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[4] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

08-62333 (E) 021208

Plan of Implementation"),[5] as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[6]

Reaffirming the commitment to implement Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including the time-bound goals and targets, and the other internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[7]

Reaffirming the decisions taken at the eleventh session of the Commission on Sustainable Development,[8]

Reiterating that sustainable development in its economic, social and environmental aspects is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, and reaffirming the continuing need to ensure a balance among economic development, social development and environmental protection as interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars of sustainable development,

Noting that challenges remain in achieving the goals of the three pillars of sustainable development, particularly in the context of the current global crises,

Taking note of the proposal to convene a world summit on sustainable development in 2012,

Bearing in mind the need for further consultations on this matter, in the light of the variety of views expressed by Member States, recognizing that the preparatory process, content, modalities and timing for such a possible high-level event on sustainable development would need to be determined taking into account the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development, particularly as established in its multi-year programme of work, with a view to avoiding duplication of work,

Recalling the adoption of the Commission on Sustainable Development multi-year programme of work designed to contribute to advancing the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation at all levels,

Reaffirming that eradicating poverty, changing unsustainable patterns of production and consumption and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are overarching objectives of and essential requirements for sustainable development,

Recognizing that good governance within each country and at the international level is essential for sustainable development,

Recalling that the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation designated the Commission to serve as the focal point for discussion on partnerships that promote sustainable development and contribute to the implementation of intergovernmental

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[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[6] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[7] See resolution 60/1.

[8] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 9* (E/2003/29), chap. I.

commitments in Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,

Recognizing that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in particular for developing countries, and that although each country has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and poverty eradication and the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, concerted and concrete measures are required at all levels to enable developing countries to achieve their sustainable development goals as related to the internationally agreed poverty-related targets and goals, including those contained in Agenda 21, the relevant outcomes of other United Nations conferences and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[9]

Recalling that the Economic and Social Council should increase its role in overseeing system-wide coordination and the balanced integration of economic, social and environmental aspects of United Nations policies and programmes aimed at promoting sustainable development, and reaffirming that the Commission on Sustainable Development should continue to be the high-level commission on sustainable development within the United Nations system and serve as a forum for consideration of issues related to integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development,

Recalling also that agriculture, rural development, land, drought and desertification are interlinked and should be addressed in an integrated manner, taking into account economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development, related sectoral policies and cross-cutting issues including means of implementation, as identified at the eleventh session of the Commission,

Recognizing the problems and constraints that African countries are facing in the areas of agriculture, rural development, land, drought and desertification, and emphasizing that those problems and constraints should be adequately addressed during the seventeenth session of the Commission, which will be a policy session,

Recalling the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session,[10] endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2003/61 of 25 July 2003, that the Commission, at its policy sessions, to be held in April/May of the second year of the cycle of the Commission's work programme, would take policy decisions on practical measures and options to expedite implementation in the selected thematic cluster of issues, taking account of the discussions of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting, the reports of the Secretary-General and other relevant inputs,

Recalling also the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session[11] that the discussions of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting would be based on the outcome of the review session and reports of the Secretary-General, as well as other relevant inputs, and that, on the basis of those discussions, the Chair would prepare a draft negotiating document for consideration at the policy session,

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[9] See resolution 55/2.

[10] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 9* (E/2003/29), chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I, para. 2 (h).

[11] Ibid., para. 2 (g).

Recognizing the importance of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting in respect of discussing policy options and possible actions to address the constraints and obstacles in the process of implementation identified during the review year,

Noting with satisfaction that the Commission at its sixteenth session undertook an in-depth evaluation of progress in implementing Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, focusing on the thematic cluster of issues on agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa, and identified best practices, constraints and obstacles in the process of implementation,[12]

Noting with satisfaction also the review of the implementation of the Commission's decisions on water held by the Commission at its sixteenth session,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[13]

2. *Reiterates* that sustainable development is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, in particular for achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and those contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;[5]

3. *Calls upon* Governments, all relevant international and regional organizations, the Economic and Social Council, the United Nations funds and programmes, the regional commissions and the specialized agencies, the international financial institutions, the Global Environment Facility and other intergovernmental organizations, in accordance with their respective mandates, as well as major groups, to take action to ensure the effective implementation of and follow-up to the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and encourages them to report on concrete progress in that regard;

4. *Calls for* the effective implementation of the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development and for the fulfilment of the provisions relating to the means of implementation, as contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

5. *Invites* Member States to express their views on the possibility of convening a high-level event on sustainable development and requests the Secretary-General, in his report on the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, to include the views expressed, and decides to consider this matter further at the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly;

6. *Reiterates* that the Commission on Sustainable Development is the high-level body responsible for sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as a forum for the consideration of issues related to the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development;

7. *Emphasizes* the importance of a consensus outcome and action-oriented policy sessions;

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[12] Ibid., *2008, Supplement No. 9* (E/2008/29), chap. II.

[13] A/63/304.

8. *Encourages* Governments to participate at the appropriate level with representatives, including ministers, from the relevant departments and organizations working in the area of agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa, as well as finance, in the seventeenth session of the Commission and its Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting;

9. *Recalls* the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session that activities during Commission meetings should provide for the balanced involvement of participants from all regions, as well as for gender balance;[14]

10. *Invites* donor countries to consider supporting the participation of representatives from the developing countries in the seventeenth session of the Commission and its Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting, inter alia, through contributions to the Commission's trust fund;

11. *Reaffirms* the objective of strengthening the implementation of Agenda 21,[2] including through the mobilization of financial and technological resources, as well as capacity-building programmes, in particular for developing countries;

12. *Invites* donor Governments and international financial institutions to support developing countries' efforts to overcome barriers and constraints identified during the review year in the thematic cluster of issues of agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa;

13. *Reaffirms* the objective of enhancing the participation and effective involvement of civil society and other relevant stakeholders, as well as promoting transparency and broad public participation, in the implementation of Agenda 21;

14. *Requests* the secretariat of the Commission to coordinate the participation of the relevant major groups in the thematic discussions at the seventeenth session of the Commission and its Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting and the reporting on the fulfilment of corporate accountability and responsibility with respect to the thematic cluster of issues, in accordance with the provisions of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

15. *Reaffirms* the need to promote corporate responsibility and accountability as envisaged by the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

16. *Also reaffirms* the need to promote the development of microenterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises, including by means of training, education and skill enhancement, with a special focus on agro-industry as a provider of livelihoods for rural communities;

17. *Requests* the secretariat of the Commission to make arrangements to facilitate the balanced representation of major groups from developed and developing countries in the sessions of the Commission and in this regard invites donor countries to consider supporting the participation of major groups from developing countries, inter alia, through contributions to the Commission's trust fund;

18. *Reiterates the invitation* to the relevant specialized agencies, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International

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[14] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 9* (E/2003/29), chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I, para. 2 (j).

Fund for Agricultural Development, United Nations funds and programmes, the Global Environment Facility and international and regional financial and trade institutions, as well as the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[15] and other relevant bodies, to actively participate, within their mandates, in the work of the Commission and its Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting at its seventeenth session;

19. *Encourages* Governments and organizations at all levels, as well as major groups, to undertake results-oriented initiatives and activities to support the work of the Commission and to promote and facilitate the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21[3] and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including through voluntary multi-stakeholder partnership initiatives;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in reporting to the Commission at its seventeenth session, on the basis of appropriate inputs from all levels, to submit thematic reports on each of the six issues contained in the thematic cluster of issues on agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa, taking into account their interlinkages, while addressing the cross-cutting issues, including means of implementation identified by the Commission at its eleventh session, and also takes into account the relevant provisions of paragraphs 10, 14 and 15 of draft resolution I of the eleventh session of the Commission;[16]

21. *Underlines* the importance of setting aside adequate time for all envisaged activities in the policy session, including for negotiations on policy options and possible actions, at the seventeenth session of the Commission, and in this regard notes the importance of having all required documents, including the Chair's draft negotiating document, made available for consideration prior to the beginning of the session;

22. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development", and requests the Secretary-General, at that session, to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[15] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[16] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 9* (E/2003/29), chap. I, sect. A.

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Sixty-third session
Second Committee
Agenda item 54
Operational activities for development

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Troy Torrington (Guyana), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.43

High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978, in which it endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries,[1]

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[2]

Recalling also its resolution 62/209 of 19 December 2007, in which it decided to convene a High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the President of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation submitted pursuant to its resolution 62/209,[3]

Taking note of the draft fourth cooperation framework for South-South cooperation (2009-2011)[4] and the recommendations contained therein,

Reaffirming its previous relevant resolutions pertaining to South-South cooperation,

Requests that the President of the General Assembly entrust the President of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation with undertaking, while making use of the existing coordination mechanisms of the United Nations system,

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August-12 September 1978* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

[2] See resolution 60/1.

[3] A/C.2/63/7, annex, attachment III.

[4] DP/CF/SSC/4/Rev.1.

08-62339 (E) 011208

the necessary consultations with Member States in order to prepare for the proposed High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, with a view to the Assembly's taking a decision, during its sixty-third session, on the nature, date, budgetary implications, objectives and modalities of the Conference.

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Sixty-third session
Second Committee
Agenda item 50
Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Andrei Metelitsa (Belarus), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.26

Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3327 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974, 32/162 of 19 December 1977, 34/115 of 14 December 1979, 56/205 and 56/206 of 21 December 2001, 57/275 of 20 December 2002, 58/226 and 58/227 of 23 December 2003, 59/239 of 22 December 2004, 60/203 of 22 December 2005, 61/206 of 20 December 2006 and 62/198 of 19 December 2007,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolutions 2002/38 of 26 July 2002 and 2003/62 of 25 July 2003 and Council decisions 2004/300 of 23 July 2004, 2005/298 of 26 July 2005, 2006/247 of 27 July 2006, 2007/249 of 26 July 2007 and 2008/239 of 23 July 2008,

Recalling the goal contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[1] of achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020 and the goal contained in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation")[2] to halve, by 2015, the proportion of people who lack access to safe drinking water and sanitation,

[1] See resolution 55/2.

[2] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

08-62351 (E) 021208

Recalling also the Habitat Agenda,[3] the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,[4] the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[5]

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[6] which calls upon the States Members of the United Nations to achieve significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020, recognizing the urgent need for the provision of increased resources for affordable housing and housing-related infrastructure, prioritizing slum prevention and slum upgrading, and to encourage support for the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation and its Slum Upgrading Facility,

Recognizing the negative impact of environmental degradation, including climate change, desertification and loss of biodiversity, on human settlements,

Recognizing also that the current financial crisis could negatively impact the ability of UN-Habitat to mobilize resources and promote the use of incentives and market measures as well as the mobilization of domestic and international financial resources for supporting private sector investment in affordable housing,

Noting the important contribution of UN-Habitat, within its mandate, to more cost-effective transitions between emergency relief, recovery and reconstruction, and also welcoming the decision to admit UN-Habitat to the Inter-Agency Standing Committee,

Recognizing the significance of the urban dimension of poverty eradication and the need to integrate water and sanitation and other issues within a comprehensive framework for sustainable development,

Recognizing also the importance of decentralization policies for achieving sustainable human settlements development in line with the Habitat Agenda and the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Noting the progress so far made by UN-Habitat in the implementation of its Medium-term Strategic and Institutional Plan for the period 2008-2013,

Welcoming the efforts of UN-Habitat, as a non-resident agency and through its national Habitat Programme Managers, in helping programme countries to mainstream the Habitat Agenda in their development frameworks,

Expressing its appreciation to the Government of China and the city of Nanjing for hosting the fourth session of the World Urban Forum from 3 to 6 November 2008 and to the Government of Brazil for its offer to host the fifth session of the World Urban Forum in 2010,

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[3] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[4] Resolution S-25/2, annex.

[5] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[6] See resolution 60/1.

Noting the efforts of UN-Habitat in strengthening its collaboration with the World Bank, the regional development banks and domestic financial institutions, ensuring that its policy advisory and capacity-building activities leverage investment finance to improve water and sanitation as entry point to the attainment of internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recognizing the need for UN-Habitat to sharpen its focus on all areas within its mandate,

Recognizing also the continued need for increased and predictable financial contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation to ensure timely, effective and concrete global implementation of the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium and the relevant internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[7] and Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,

Recognizing further the progress being made by UN-Habitat in the development of the experimental reimbursable seeding operations trust fund of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, established by the Governing Council of UN-Habitat in its resolution 21/10,[8]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda[9] and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat);[10]

2. *Welcomes* the efforts of UN-Habitat in the implementation of its Medium-term Strategic and Institutional Plan for the period 2008-2013, and encourages Governments in a position to do so, and other stakeholders, to contribute to UN-Habitat so as to further strengthen its efforts in institutional reform and the pursuit of management excellence, including results-based management;

3. *Encourages* Governments to promote the principles and practice of sustainable urbanization and strengthen the role and contribution of their respective local authorities in applying these principles and practices, in order to improve the living conditions of vulnerable urban populations, including slum-dwellers and the urban poor, and as a major contribution to mitigating the causes of climate change, adapting to the effects of climate change and reducing risks and vulnerabilities in a rapidly urbanizing world, including human settlements in fragile ecosystems, and invites the international donor community to support the efforts of developing countries in this regard;

4. *Reiterates its call* for continued financial support to UN-Habitat through increased voluntary contributions, and invites Governments in a position to do so,

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[7] *Report on the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[8] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 8* (A/62/8), annex I, sect. B.

[9] E/2008/64.

[10] A/63/291.

and other stakeholders, to provide predictable multi-year funding and increased non-earmarked contributions to support the strategic and institutional objectives of the Medium-term Strategic and Institutional Plan for the period 2008-2013 and its Global Campaign on Sustainable Urbanization;

5. *Invites* the international donor community and financial institutions to contribute generously to the Water and Sanitation Trust Fund, the Slum Upgrading Facility and the technical cooperation trust funds to enable UN-Habitat to assist developing countries in mobilizing public investment and private capital for slum upgrading, shelter and basic services;

6. *Also invites* the international donor community and financial institutions to contribute to the experimental reimbursable seeding operations trust fund of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of UN-Habitat under review so as to enhance its effectiveness in supporting national policies, strategies and plans in attaining the poverty eradication, gender equality, water and sanitation and slum upgrading targets of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation[2] and the 2005 World Summit Outcome;[6]

8. *Calls upon* UN-Habitat to strengthen efforts to coordinate and implement its normative and operational activities through the enhanced normative and operational framework elaborated in the Medium-term Strategic and Institutional Plan, reinforcing its normative activities, and invites all countries in a position to do so to support the activities of UN-Habitat in this regard;

9. *Invites* UN-Habitat to enhance cooperation with regional and subregional organizations and to consider strengthening the strategic presence of its programmes in the regions in contributing to sustainable development programmes;

10. *Requests* UN-Habitat, within the framework of its experimental reimbursable seeding operations for housing finance, and in close collaboration with international and regional financial institutions, to document and disseminate lessons learned, bearing in mind the provisions of resolution 21/10 of the Governing Council of UN-Habitat,[8] and fully taking into account the recent housing finance crisis, as well as other relevant factors;

11. *Invites* the Governing Council of UN-Habitat to keep under review developments in the housing finance systems in view of the current financial crisis, and decides to explore the possibility of convening a high-level event of the General Assembly on this subject;

12. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen or establish, as appropriate, broad-based national Habitat committees with a view to mainstreaming sustainable urbanization and urban poverty reduction in their respective national development strategies;

13. *Encourages* the Economic and Social Council to include sustainable urbanization, urban poverty reduction and slum-upgrading as a cross-cutting issue in the follow-up to the outcome of relevant summits and major international conferences;

14. *Emphasizes* the importance of the location of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) at the headquarters of the United Nations Office at Nairobi, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of UN-Habitat and the United Nations Office at Nairobi under review so as to permit the delivery, in an effective manner, of necessary services to UN-Habitat and the other United Nations organs and organizations in Nairobi;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)".

United Nations A/C.2/63/L.65

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Sixty-third session
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Agenda items 118 and 52 (a)

Programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

Groups of countries in special situations: Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

Implementation of the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.57

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

I. Requests contained in the draft resolution

1. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 4, 5, 6, 7 and 10 of draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.57, the General Assembly would:

(a) Decide to convene, as called for in paragraph 114 of the Brussels Programme of Action, the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries at a high level in the year 2011 for the duration of not more than five working days, the mandate of the Conference being the following:

(i) To undertake a comprehensive appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Decade 2001-2010 by the least developed countries and their development partners, share best practices and lessons learned, and identify obstacles and constraints encountered as well as actions and initiatives needed to overcome them;

(ii) To identify effective international and domestic policies in the light of the outcome of the appraisal as well as new and emerging challenges and opportunities and the means to address them;

(iii) To reaffirm the global commitment to addressing the special needs of the least developed countries made at the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Summit and the 2005 World Summit, in

08-62369 (E) 011208

particular the needs related to sustainable development in its economic, social and environmental dimensions and to support the least developed countries in eradicating poverty and integrating beneficially into the global economy;

(iv) To mobilize additional international support measures and action in favour of the least developed countries and, in that regard, formulate and adopt the framework for a renewed partnership between the least developed countries and their development partners;

(b) Decide to convene an intergovernmental preparatory committee, which would hold no more than two meetings towards the end of 2010 and/or in early 2011;

(c) Decide that the meetings of the preparatory committee would be preceded by two regional-level preparatory meetings, one in collaboration with the Economic Commission for Africa and the other in collaboration with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, in the context of the regular annual sessions of each Commission, with those regional-level meetings to be supported by broad-based and inclusive country-level preparations;

(d) Stress that the Conference and the preparatory activities should be carried out so as to remain within the budget level proposed by the Secretary-General for the biennium 2010-2011 and should be organized in the most effective and efficient manner possible;

(e) Decide that the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States would be the focal point for the preparations of the Conference, in accordance with the mandates given in General Assembly resolution 56/227, to ensure that those preparations are carried out effectively, and to mobilize and coordinate the active involvement of United Nations system organizations.

II. Relationship of the requests to the programme of work for the bienniums 2008-2009 and 2010-2011

2. The activities referred to above relate to programme 8, Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, of the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2008-2009 (A/61/6/Rev.1), and section 10, Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, of the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 (A/62/6 (Sect. 10)). They also relate to: (a) programme 1, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management; (b) programme 8, Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States; (c) programme 14, Economic and social development in Africa; (d) programme 15, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific; and (e) programme 23, Public information, of the proposed biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2010-2011 (see A/63/6 (Part one), (Prog. 1), (Prog. 8), (Prog. 14), (Prog. 15) and (Prog. 23)).

III. Activities by which the requests would be implemented

3. With regard to operative paragraphs 4 and 5 of draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.57, it is recalled that under the established headquarters principle, the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and meetings of its preparatory committee would be held at New York. It is, therefore, understood, in accordance with section 1, paragraph 5, of General Assembly resolution 40/243, that any additional costs resulting from a change of venue of these meetings from New York would be borne by the host country.

4. Although the note by the Secretary-General outlining the modalities of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (A/63/284) has been submitted to the General Assembly, a decision on the organizational aspects, including the dates and venue of the Conference and the duration and dates of the preparatory committee, will be taken by the Assembly later during its current session in accordance with operative paragraph 8 of the draft resolution. There would also be a need for public information services and promotional events to ensure the success of the Conference.

5. Under the provisions of operative paragraph 6 of the draft resolution, two regional-level preparatory meetings will be held, one in collaboration with the Economic Commission for Africa and the other in collaboration with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, in the context of the regular annual sessions of each Commission, to be supported by broad-based and inclusive country-level preparations.

6. Pursuant to operative paragraph 9 of the draft resolution, the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States would serve as the focal point for the preparations of the Conference, in accordance with the mandates given in General Assembly resolution 56/227, to ensure that those preparations are carried out effectively, and to mobilize and coordinate the active involvement of United Nations system organizations.

IV. Modification of the programme of work for 2008-2009 and the proposed biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2010-2011

7. In order to reflect the provisions of the draft resolution, the narrative of section 10, Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, of the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 (A/62/6 (Sect. 10)) would need to be modified to include additional outputs under subprogramme 1, Least developed countries, as follows:

Paragraph 10.18

Under "(b) Other substantive activities (regular budget)" add:

"(vi) Preparation of a road map for the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;

"(vii) Preparation and substantive servicing of two inter-agency meetings;

"(viii) Substantive support for the preparation of 49 national reports;

"(ix) Planning for the regional preparatory meetings."

8. The relevant outputs pertaining to substantive and coordination activities beyond the current biennium would be reflected in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011.

V. Estimates of additional requirements

9. In order to effectively fulfil its role as the focal point for the preparation of the Conference as called for in operative paragraph 10 of draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.57, the Office of the High Representative would need to be strengthened by provision of temporary assistance equivalent to a total of 27 work months of Professional staff (2 P-4 and 1 P-3 for 9 months each) and 9 work months at the General Service level (Other level) in 2009 ($476,400 gross). There would also be additional requirements in 2009 for travel of staff members to initiate the process of consultation among all stakeholders ($24,000).

10. The requirement for the above temporary positions would continue for 17 months each in 2010-2011 ($899,900 gross). During that biennium, there would also be additional requirements relating to travel of staff to service two inter-agency meetings in Geneva and the two regional preparatory meetings ($84,400).

11. While the decision to convene the Conference and the intergovernmental preparatory committee would give rise to additional resource requirements with regard to conference servicing, support services and public information services, it is not feasible for the Secretariat to determine the full extent of those requirements until such time as specific information on the dates and venue of the Conference and the duration and dates of the preparatory committee is available.

12. Given that the regional preparatory meetings would be held in the context of the regular annual sessions of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, servicing of those meetings would be provided from within the existing capacity of the two regional commissions.

13. With regard to the provisions of operative paragraph 7 of the draft resolution, the attention of the Committee is drawn to the provisions of section VI of General Assembly resolution 45/248 B, in which the Assembly reaffirmed that the Fifth Committee was the appropriate Main Committee of the Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters and also reaffirmed the role of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

VI. Potential for absorption

14. No provisions have been made under the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 for the substantive preparatory and coordinating activities for the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in 2009. At the current stage, it is not possible to identify activities within section 10 of the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 that could be terminated, deferred, curtailed or modified during the biennium.

15. Requirements for the activities by which the provisions of draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.57 would be implemented in 2010-2011 would be considered within the framework of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011.

VII. Contingency fund

16. It will be recalled that, under the procedures established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 41/213 and 42/211, a contingency fund is established for each biennium to accommodate additional expenditure derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the programme budget. Under this procedure, if additional expenditures are proposed that exceed the resources available from the contingency fund, the activities concerned would be implemented only through the redeployment of resources from low-priority areas or the modification of existing activities. Otherwise, such additional activities would have to be deferred to a later biennium.

VIII. Summary

17. **Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.57, additional resource requirements of $500,400 gross ($437,100 net) would arise under the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009. The amount would represent a charge against the contingency fund and, as such, would require an additional appropriation for the biennium 2008-2009.**

18. **The additional requirements for the biennium 2010-2011 would be considered in the context of the proposed programme budget for that biennium.**

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Sixty-third session
Second Committee
Agenda item 51 (a)
Globalization and interdependence: role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Troy Torrington (Guyana), on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.29

Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/169 of 15 December 1998, 54/231 of 22 December 1999, 55/212 of 20 December 2000, 56/209 of 21 December 2001, 57/274 of 20 December 2002, 58/225 of 23 December 2003, 59/240 of 22 December 2004, 60/204 of 22 December 2005, 61/207 of 20 December 2006 and 62/199 of 19 December 2007 on the role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome[1] and all relevant General Assembly resolutions, in particular those that have built upon the 2005 World Summit Outcome, in the economic, social and related fields, including resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals, and the other internationally agreed development goals,

Reaffirming that the United Nations has a central role in promoting international cooperation for development and in promoting policy coherence on global development issues, including in the context of globalization and interdependence,

Reaffirming also the resolve expressed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[2] to ensure that globalization works as a positive force for all.

[1] See resolution 60/1.
[2] See resolution 55/2.

08-63913 (E) 101208

Recognizing that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated,

Recognizing also that globalization, driven largely by economic liberalization and technology, implies that the economic performance of a country is increasingly affected by factors outside its geographical borders and that maximizing in an equitable manner the benefits of globalization requires developing responses to globalization through a strengthened global partnership for development to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Expressing concern that the number of people living in poverty is higher than previously estimated,[3] despite significant progress, and that the current financial and food insecurity crises and unpredictable energy prices may pose significant challenges for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recognizing that domestic economies are now interwoven with the global economy and that globalization affects all countries in different ways, and that countries on the one hand have trade and investment opportunities to, inter alia, fight poverty, while on the other hand, they face constraints in the degree of flexibility they have in pursuing their national development strategies,

Reaffirming its strong support for fair and inclusive globalization and the need to translate growth into reduction of poverty and, in this regard, its resolve to make the goals of full and productive employment and decent work for all, including for women and young people, a central objective of relevant national and international policies as well as national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategies, as part of efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals,

Noting that particular attention must be given, in the context of globalization, to the objective of protecting, promoting and enhancing the rights and welfare of women and girls, as stated in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[4]

Reaffirming its commitment to governance, equity and transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems and its commitment to open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial systems,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[5]

2. *Expresses deep concern* at the impact of the current financial crisis and global economic slowdown on the ability of developing countries to gain access to the financing necessary for their development objectives, and underlines the fact that developing countries and countries with economies in transition risk suffering very serious setbacks to their development objectives, in particular the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

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[3] World Bank estimates, as at August 2008, calculated using a revised poverty line.

[4] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publications, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[5] A/63/333.

3. *Recognizes* the measures adopted by Governments to address the present financial crisis and, in that regard, calls upon all countries to manage their macroeconomic and financial policies in ways that contribute to global stability and sustained economic growth and sustainable development;

4. *Also recognizes* that greater coherence is required among the macroeconomic, trade, aid, financial, environmental and gender-equality policies to support the common aim of ensuring that globalization works as a positive force for all;

5. *Further recognizes* that new and highly globalized financial instruments continue to change the nature of risks in the world economy, requiring continuing enhancement of market oversight and regulation, and underlines the fact that to strengthen the resilience of the international financial system, reforms will need to be implemented that will strengthen the regulatory and supervisory frameworks of financial markets;

6. *Underlines* the fact that economies exist in a globalizing world where the emergence of rule-based regimes for international economic relations has meant that the space for national economic policy, that is to say, the scope for domestic policies, especially in the areas of trade, investment and industrial development, is now often framed by international disciplines, commitments and global market considerations, that it is for each Government to evaluate the trade-off between the benefits of accepting international rules and commitments and the constraints posed by the loss of policy space, and that it is particularly important for developing countries, bearing in mind development goals and objectives, that all countries take into account the need for appropriate balance between national policy space and international disciplines and commitments, and in this regard, notes with appreciation the outcome of the twelfth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Accra from 20 to 25 April 2008;[6]

7. *Reaffirms* that good governance is essential for sustainable development, that sound economic policies, solid democratic institutions responsive to the needs of the people and improved infrastructure are the basis for sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and employment creation, and that freedom, peace and security, domestic stability, respect for human rights, including the right to development, and the rule of law, gender equality, market-oriented policies and an overall commitment to just and democratic societies are also essential and mutually reinforcing;

8. *Also reaffirms* that good governance at the international level is fundamental for achieving sustainable development, that in order to ensure a dynamic and enabling international economic environment it is important to promote global economic governance by addressing the international finance, trade, technology and investment patterns that have an impact on the development prospects of developing countries and that the international community should take all necessary and appropriate measures to this end, including ensuring support for structural and macroeconomic reform, a comprehensive solution to the external debt problem and increasing the market access of developing countries;

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[6] See TD/442 and Corr.1.

9. *Further reaffirms* that each country has primary responsibility for its own development, that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized in the achievement of sustainable development and that national efforts should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty;

10. *Reaffirms* the commitment to broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in international economic decision-making and norm-setting, stresses, to that end, the importance of continuing efforts to reform the international financial architecture, noting that enhancing the voice and participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the Bretton Woods institutions remains a continuous concern, and calls in this regard for further and effective progress;

11. *Stresses* the need for increased support for investment in agricultural productivity, particularly in developing countries, in order to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

12. *Encourages* all development partners to help strengthen and support national health and education policies and plans of developing countries through providing assistance and funding in accordance with their development needs and priorities;

13. *Calls upon* Governments to assign a high priority to education, including by establishing institutions, particularly for basic education and vocational training, and improving access to and quality of primary, secondary and tertiary education, including by developing a clear vision for the long-term development of a comprehensive, diversified and well-articulated tertiary education system;

14. *Calls upon* countries to increase public expenditure and encourage greater private and community investment to achieve international goals and targets in the areas of health, nutrition and sanitation consistent with public policy objectives related to equitable access as well as meeting the specific health goals of reducing child and maternal mortality and reducing the spread of diseases such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria;

15. *Calls upon* all countries to promote sustainable consumption and production patterns, with the developed countries taking the lead and with all countries benefiting from the process, taking into account the Rio principles, including the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities as set out in principle 7 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development;[7]

16. *Stresses* the need for all countries to harness knowledge and technology and stimulate innovation if they are to improve their competitiveness and benefit from trade and investment, and in this regard underlines the importance of concrete actions to facilitate technology transfer under fair, transparent and mutually agreed

[7] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

terms to developing countries in support of the implementation of their sustainable development strategies;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on globalization and interdependence on the theme "Globalization and interdependence: the roie of the United Nations in poverty reduction and sustainable development" under the agenda item entitled "Globalization and interdependence";

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session, under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence", the sub-item entitled "Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence".

United Nations A/C.2/63/L.67

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Agenda item 51 (b)
Globalization and interdependence: international migration and development

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Troy Torrington (Guyana), on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.31

International migration and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/208 of 23 December 2003, 59/241 of 22 December 2004, 60/227 of 23 December 2005, 60/206 of 22 December 2005 on the facilitation and reduction of the cost of transfer of migrant remittances, 62/156 of 18 December 2007 on the protection of migrants, 62/270 of 20 June 2008 on the Global Forum on Migration and Development and 61/208 of 20 December 2006 on international migration and development,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome[1] and its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals, and taking note of the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development, adopted on 2 December 2008,[2]

Recalling further its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[3] and recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[4] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[4] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[5] the Convention on the

[1] See resolution 60/1.
[2] A/CONF.212/L.1/Rev.1.
[3] Resolution 217 A (III).
[4] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.
[5] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

08-64151 (E) 101208

Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[6] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[7]

Recalling the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[8] and the invitation to Member States that have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Convention,

Recalling also the importance of the decent work agenda of the International Labour Organization, including for migrant workers, and the eight fundamental Conventions of the International Labour Organization,

Recalling further Commission on Population and Development resolution 2006/2 of 10 May 2006,[9]

Bearing in mind the summary of the 2006 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development by the President of the General Assembly,[10]

Acknowledging that the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development provided a useful opportunity to address constructively the issue of international migration and development and heightened awareness on the issue,

Acknowledging also the important nexus between international migration and development and the need to deal with the challenges and opportunities that migration presents to countries of origin, transit and destination, and recognizing that migration brings benefits as well as challenges to the global community,

Acknowledging further the important contribution provided by migrants and migration to development, as well as the complex interrelationship between migration and development,

Recognizing that remittance flows constitute sources of private capital and that remittances have increased over time, complement domestic savings and are instrumental in improving the well-being of recipients,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[11]

2. *Encourages* efforts by Member States and the international community to promote a balanced, coherent and comprehensive approach to international migration and development, particularly by building partnerships and ensuring coordinated action to develop capacities, including for the management of migration;

3. *Emphasizes* that respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants is essential to reap the benefits of international migration;

4. *Recognizes with appreciation* the important contribution made by migrants and migration to development in countries of origin and destination;

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[6] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[7] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[8] Ibid., vol. 2220, No. 39481.

[9] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2006, Supplement No. 5* (E/2006/25), chap. I, sect. B.

[10] A/61/515.

[11] A/63/265 and Corr.1.

5. *Takes note* of the Global Forum on Migration and Development, held in Brussels from 9 to 11 July 2007 and in Manila from 27 to 30 October 2008, as an informal, voluntary, open, State-led initiative and of the generous offer of the Government of Greece to host the third meeting of the Global Forum, on 4 and 5 November 2009 in Athens, as well as the offers of other Governments to hold subsequent meetings of the Forum;

6. *Invites* the countries of origin and destination, in accordance with domestic legislation, to undertake appropriate measures to facilitate the contribution of migrants and migrant communities to the development of their countries of origin;

7. *Recognizes* the need for Member States to continue considering the multidimensional aspects of international migration and development in order to identify appropriate ways and means of maximizing the development benefits and minimizing the negative impacts;

8. *Reaffirms* that there is a need to address and promote conditions for cheaper, faster and safer transfers of remittances in both source and recipient countries and, as appropriate, to encourage opportunities for development-oriented investment in recipient countries by beneficiaries that are willing and able to undertake such action, bearing in mind that remittances cannot be considered as a substitute for foreign direct investment, official development assistance, debt relief or other public sources of finance development;

9. *Reiterates* the need to consider how the migration of highly skilled persons and those with advanced education affects the development efforts of developing countries;

10. *Acknowledges* the need to analyse the impact of certain forms of temporary migration, circular migration and return migration on the development of countries of origin, transit and destination, as well as on migrants themselves;

11. *Urges* Member States and relevant international organizations to incorporate a gender perspective in all policies and programmes on international migration in order to, inter alia, reinforce the positive contributions that migrant women can make to the economic, social and human development of their countries of origin and their host countries, and to strengthen the protection of women migrants from all forms of violence, discrimination, trafficking, exploitation and abuse by promoting their rights and welfare, while recognizing in this regard the importance of joint and collaborative approaches and strategies at the bilateral, regional, interregional and international levels;

12. *Requests* all Member States, in accordance with their relevant international obligations and commitments, to promote cooperation at all levels in addressing the challenge of undocumented or irregular migration so as to foster a secure, regular and orderly process of migration;

13. *Calls upon* all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, and other relevant intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations, including the Global Migration Group, within their respective mandates, to continue to address the issue of international migration and development, with a view to integrating migration issues, including a gender perspective and cultural diversity in a more coherent way, within the context of the

implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and with respect for human rights;

14. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations and multilateral institutions to enhance their cooperation in the development of methodologies for the collection and processing of statistical data on international migration and the situation of migrants in countries of origin, transit and destination and to assist Member States in their capacity-building efforts in this regard;

15. *Encourages* the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations to support developing countries in their efforts to address migration issues within their respective development strategies in the context of the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

16. *Decides* to hold, within existing resources, a high-level dialogue on international migration and development during its sixty-eighth session, in 2013, the focus and modalities of which will be decided upon at its sixty-seventh session;

17. *Also decides* to convene, within existing resources, at its sixty-fifth session, in 2011, a one-day informal thematic debate on international migration and development;

18. *Further decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the sub-item entitled "International migration and development";

19. *Invites* the regional commissions to examine regional aspects of international migration and development and to provide inputs, in accordance with respective mandates and within existing resources, to the report of the Secretary-General on this agenda item at its sixty-fifth session;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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Sixty-third session
Second Committee
Agenda item 110
Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

Draft programme of work of the Second Committee for the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly

1. Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources.
2. Information and communication technologies for development.
3. Macroeconomic policy questions:
   (a) International trade and development;
   (b) International financial system and development;
   (c) External debt and development: towards a durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries;
   (d) Commodities.
4. Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development and the 2008 Review Conference.
5. Sustainable development:
   (a) Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development;
   (b) Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;
   (c) International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;
   (d) Protection of global climate for present and future generations;

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(e) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;

(f) Convention on Biological Diversity;

(g) Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twenty-fifth session;

(h) Sustainable mountain development;

(i) Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy.

6. Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat).

7. Globalization and interdependence:

(a) Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence;

(b) International migration and development;

(c) Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets, in particular to the countries of origin, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption;

(d) Science and technology for development.

8. Groups of countries in special situations:

(a) Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;

(b) Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation.

9. Eradication of poverty and other development issues:

(a) Implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty;

(b) Women in development;

(c) Human resources development.

10. Operational activities for development:

(a) Operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

(b) South-South cooperation.

11. Towards global partnerships.